



PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 08048.0027-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Jean-Louis H. GUERET) Group Art Unit: 3732
)
Application No.: 10/084,939) Examiner: R. Doan
)
Filed: March 1, 2002) Confirmation No.: 8280
)
For: BRUSH AND METHOD OF)
MAKING BRUSH)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

In an Office Action dated May 16, 2005, the Examiner required an election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 of one of the following two (2) groups of claims:

- I. Group I, claims 1-239, 264, and 293, directed to "a brush;" and
- II. Group II, claims 240-263, 265-292, and 294-297, directed to "a method of manufacturing a brush."

If Group I is elected, the Examiner has further required an election under § 121 of one of the following seventeen (17) alleged species (i.e., embodiments):

- Species I, shown in Figs. 1-7;
- Species II, shown in Figs. 8 and 9;
- Species III, shown in Figs. 10 and 11;
- Species IV, shown in Figs. 12 and 13;
- Species V, shown in Figs. 14 and 15;

Species VI, shown in Figs. 16-19;
Species VII, shown in Figs. 20-24;
Species VIII, shown in Figs. 25, 29, 30, and 37;
Species IX, shown in Figs. 26, 31, 32, and 38;
Species X, shown in Figs. 27, 33, 34, and 39;
Species XI, shown in Figs. 28, 35, 36, and 40;
Species XII, shown in Fig. 41;
Species XIII, shown in Fig. 42;
Species XIV, shown in Figs. 44-46;
Species XV, shown in Fig. 47;
Species XVI, shown in Fig. 48; and
Species XVII, shown in Fig. 51.

Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-239, 264, and 293. Applicant further provisionally elects Species I, shown in Figs. 1-7. Of the claims included in Group I, at least claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 15-19, 21-31, 33-37, 45-49, 51-61, 64-67, 74-79, 81-91, 93-96, 104-108, 110-120, 122-126, 134-138, 140-150, 152-156, 164-168, 170-180, 182, 183-186, 194-210, 212-216, 224-228, 230-239, 264, and 293 are “readable” on the elected species. Applicant agrees with the Examiner’s determination that at least elected independent claims 1, 31, 61, 91, 120, 150, 180, and 210 are generic. See Office Action at 3.

The Office Action contains numerous characterizations of the disclosure and the claims with which Applicant does not necessarily agree. Unless expressly noted otherwise, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.


The Examiner is invited to call Applicant's undersigned attorney at
(571) 203-2739 if a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the
above-referenced application.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge
any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 16, 2005

By: 
Christopher T. Kent
Reg. No. 48,216